

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 LONDON 20705 231747Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 ERDE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 PRS-01 PA-02 ERDA-07 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00
CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-02
INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 OES-06
SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-10 /103 W
----- 109218 /46

P 231656Z DEC 76
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9038

UNCLAS LONDON 20705

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, UK
SUBJECT: BRITISH GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL NORTH
SEA PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS

1. ON DECEMBER 2L DICKSON MABON, THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR ENERGY, TOLD THE COMMONS THAT THE GOVERNMENT AND BNOC CONCLUDED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING LAST WEEK WITH CHEVRON (UK SUDSIDIARY OF SOCAL). HE SAID ALL PARTIES INTENDED TO CONCLUDE A DEFINITIVE LEGAL AGREEMENT EMBODYING THE PRINCIPLES OF STATE PARTICIPATION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. THE AGREEMENT WOULD PROVIDE FOR BNOC TO HAVE THE OPTION AFTER A BUILDUP PERIOD TO BUY UP TO 51 PERCENT OF CHEVRON'S OIL FROM THE NINIAN FIELD AT MARKET PRICE, WITH CHEVRON HAVING CERTAIN REPURCHASE RIGHTS. BNOC WILL ALSO BE GIVEN AN EFFECTIVE VOICE AND VOTE IN CHEVRON'S OPERATING COMMITTEE.

2. MABON ADDED THAT HEADS OF AGREEMENT HAD BEEN SIGNED WITH SANTA FE (UK) AND SANTA FE MINERALS (UK) INC. IT IS PLANNED THAT A DEFINITIVE AGREEMENT WILL BE SIGNED BY THE END OF NEXT MAY. THE DEAL WOULD COVER SANTA FE'S 21.7 PERCENT INTEREST IN THE THISTLE FIELD. THE
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 LONDON 20705 231747Z

CRUDE ACCESS AND VOTING PROVISIONS WOULD BE LIKE THOSE IN THE CHEVRON AGREEMENT. PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS HAVE ALREADY BEEN REACHED WITH A NUMBER OF OTHER PARTICIPANTS IN THE THISTLE FIELD DEVELOPMENT.

SPIERS

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: REPORTS, TREATY SIGNATURE, PETROLEUM INDUSTRY, PETROLEUM PRODUCTION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976LONDON20705
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760471-0368
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761217/aaaaaopm.tel
Line Count: 61
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vogelfj
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <15 JUN 2004 by chengls>; APPROVED <14 DEC 2004 by vogelfj>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BRITISH GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES ADDITIONAL NORTH SEA PARTICIPATION AGREEMENTS
TAGS: ENRG, UK, CHEVRON, BNOC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006